

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

ICAE-00 HA-05 EB-08 SES-02 /099 W

-----097010 241637Z /44

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5996

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USNATO

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 20337

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: CH, UR, PROP, MASS, PARM

SUBJECT: AUTHORITATIVE "OBSERVER" ARTICLE WARNS WEST
ABOUT ARMS DELIVERIES TO CHINA

1. DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE RECEIVED FULL ENGLISH LANGUAGE
TEXT OF AUTHORITATIVE "OBSERVER" ARTICLE RUN ON TASS
ENGLISH WIRE AUGUST 24 AND PRINTED IN PRAVDA SAME DAY.

ARTICLE JOINS A SERIES OF OTHER RECENT SOVIET PRO-
NOUNCEMENTS WARNING AGAINST ARMS OR MILITARY TECHNOLOGY
DELIVERIES TO CHINA AS WELL AS AGAINST COLLUDING WITH
PEKING'S ANTI-SOVIET FOREIGN POLICY (JUNE 17 PRAVDA
ARTICLE, BREZHNEV'S JUNE 25 MINSK SPEECH AND AUGUST 5
ALEXANDROV ARTICLE). TAKEN TOGETHER, THESE PRONOUNCE-
MENTS STRIKE US AS REFLECTING DEEP SOVIET CONCERN OVER
THE RECENT SUCCESSES IN PRC WORLDWIDE DIPLOMACY IMPROV-
ING ATMOSPHERE IN US-PRC RELATIONS, AND THE PROSPECTS
FOR WESTERN TRANSFERS OF ARMS AND MILITARY-RELATED
TECHNOLOGY TO CHINA. THIS ALMOST CADENCED SERIES OF
AUTHORITATIVE WARNINGS HAS BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY A STEADY
STREAM OF ANTI-PRC ARTICLES AND BROADCASTS
UNABATED SINCE MID-DECEMBER, 1977, EXCEPT FOR A BRIEF
LULL DURING LAST SPRING'S PRC NATIONAL PEOPLES' CON-
GRESS MEETING.

2. FOLLOWING POINTS ABOUT ARTICLE STRIKE US AS NOTE-
WORTHY:

-- ARTICLE'S TIMING COINCIDES WITH INCREASING INDICA-
TIONS THAT WESTERN COUNTRIES MAY CONCLUDE MILITARY
SALES AGREEMENTS WITH THE PRC. ARTICLE ALSO COIN-
CIDES WITH HUA KUO FENG'S VISIT TO ROMANIA AND
YUGOSLAVIA AND UPCOMING VISIT BY JAPANESE MINISTER FOR
INDUSTRY AND TRADE KOMOTO TO CHINA;
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-- ARTICLE ATTEMPTS TO LINK PROSPECTS FOR CSCE PROGRESS
IN EUROPE (AND DETENTE IN GENERAL) WITH NATO BEHAVIOR
RE MILITARY TRANSFERS TO PRC. IT ASSERTS THAT "PLANS
TO ARM CHINA" CONTRADICT EFFORTS BY "PEACE-LOVING
STATES" TO PROMOTE DETENTE AND END THE ARMS RACE. IT
SPECIFICALLY CHARGES THAT MILITARY HARDWARE AND TECH-
NOLOGY DELIVERIES TO CHINA WOULD VIOLATE THE HELSINKI
ACT'S CALL FOR THE CREATION OF AN ATMOSPHERE OF TRUST
AND RESPECT;

-- ARTICLE ATTEMPTS TO PREEMPT OR DEBUNK POSSIBLE
WESTERN ARGUMENTS THAT DEFENSIVE ARMS SALES TO CHINA
ARE JUSTIFIED;

-- ARTICLE OFFERS CRITICISM OF THE PRC'S
EASTERN EUROPEAN DIPLOMACY AND PRC EFFORTS TO SPLIT
THE "SOCIALIST" COMMUNITY. IT CRITICIZES, BY
INDIRECTION, CEAUSESCU AND TITO, NOTING THE ABILITY
OF PEKING'S ANTI-SOVIET LEADERS TO "SQUEEZE INTO"
AREAS "WHERE (RATHER THAN "WHEN" AS RENDERED BY TASS
ENGLISH) THEIR PLANS ARE BEING PLAYED UP TO." THIS

IS MOST OUTSPOKEN SLAP AT ROMANIA'S AND YUGOSLAVIA'S
POSTURE TOWARD CHINA SINCE HUA'S ARRIVAL IN BUCHAREST.
TOON

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